

We claim:

1. A method for making wound dressing including a perforated silicone gel layer, the method comprising the steps of:

placing a layer of uncured silicone gel onto a planar surface of a perforation device having a plurality of perforating elements that extend through the silicone gel layer; and

peeling the silicone gel away from the perforation device when at least a surface of the silicone gel layer adjacent the planar surface has at least partially cured.

2. The method according to claim 1, further comprising the step of heating the planar surface of the perforation device.

3. The method according to claim 1, wherein the perforating elements have a cross-section shape selected from the group consisting of circular, square, triangular, elliptical, rectilinear and combinations thereof.

4. The method according to claim 1, wherein the perforating elements are equally spaced from one another.

5. A method for making wound dressing including a perforated silicone gel layer using a perforation device having a plurality of holes and a plurality of discrete perforating elements slidably disposed in the holes thereof, the perforating elements being slidable through the holes to extend from a generally planar surface of the perforation device, the method comprising:

placing a layer of uncured silicone gel on the planar surface of the perforation device;

driving the perforating elements through the silicone gel layer; and

withdrawing the perforating elements from the silicone gel layer when at least a surface thereof located adjacent the planar surface of the perforation device has at least partially cured.

6. The method according to claim 5, further comprising the step of heating the planar surface of the perforation device.

7. The method according to claim 5, wherein the perforating elements have a cross-sectional shape selected from the group consisting of circular, square, triangular, elliptical, rectilinear and combinations thereof.

8. The method according to claim 5, wherein the perforating elements are equally spaced from one another.

9. The method according to claim 5, further comprising the step of peeling the silicone gel away from the perforation device when at least a surface of the silicone gel layer adjacent the planar surface has at least partially cured.

10. The method according to claim 9, wherein the perforating elements are removed from the silicone gel layer prior to removing the silicone gel layer from the perforation device.

11. A method for making wound dressing including a perforated silicone gel layer, said method including the steps of:

depositing uncured elastomer gel onto a carrier surface to form a discrete sheet of elastomer gel thereon;

curing the elastomer gel sheet to a partially cured state; and

rotating a roller device having a plurality of perforating elements onto the gel sheet to form a plurality of apertures arranged in a pattern.

12. The method according to claim 11, wherein the perforating elements of the roller device are applied as the elastomer gel sheet is curing from an uncured to at least a partially cured state.

13. The method according to claim 11, further comprising the step of peeling the silicone gel away from the carrier surface when at least a side of the silicone gel layer adjacent the planar surface has at least partially cured and the roller device has imparted apertures in the silicone gel layer.